

Nov. 22, 1957

Bradley
Dear Gaylen:

Yes, we've just gotten home!

But this has to be written in haste.

We saw Sermonti in Rome and Milan (day before yesterday!), and I must say I rather liked him, though he is unusually shy at first contact. It turns out he is anxious to come to the US next year, this having largely been instigated by Bonner, who met him during a brief foray from Paris. He has made some preliminary applications directed toward Bonner at Yale, but if I can put my own two cents in, it would make much more sense all the way round if he came and worked with you for six months or a year. That would be the best possible way to integrate his findings and yours. It has to be admitted that, on account of policy at the I.S. S. he has to give second place to the actinomycete work, but all the more reason to make the most effective use of a fellowship year.

The point is he's the sort of fellow who will be too shy to take a strong initiative himself. If you agree on the idea, I urge you to write him yourself, inviting him to U/M as warmly as possible. If you could back this up in any way with assurances, even tentative, of some financial support in ~~some~~ case his other approaches dry up, so much the better! But the immediate desideratum would be your moral encouragement, and you could take time meanwhile to initiate financial backing (which you should have no trouble getting, e.g. from Rockefeller on an 'emergency' basis).

Mrs. Sermonti is a charming girl, a ~~big~~ bit preoccupied with family right now but anxious to see if she can arrange to join her husband.

~~But~~ In your own interest, I'd do what I could.

Yrs.